



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dr. Tom W. Kimbrell, Commissioner

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FOUR NAMED AS 'MASTER PRINCIPALS'

LITTLE ROCK — Four innovative school leaders were recognized Monday before the Arkansas State Board of Education as "master principals" after successfully completing rigorous professional development and performance evaluations.

They are Lori Griffin of Elgin B. Milton Primary School in Ozark; Cathy Riggins who serves Vilonia's Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Graders; Tanya Sharp of Elm Tree Elementary in Bentonville; and Brenda Tash of Center Valley Elementary in Russellville.

The four principals graduated from the Arkansas Leadership Academy's Master Principal Program, which is based in the University of Arkansas' College of Education and Health Professions.

"These educators exemplify what excellent school leadership is all about," Arkansas Education Commissioner Dr. Tom Kimbrell said. "The training offered by the academy greatly helps principals provide the best education possible for their students."

The Master Principal program was authorized by Act 44 of the special legislative session on education in 2003-2004. Master principals receive a \$9,000 a year bonus for five years. Debbie Davis, director of the Leadership Academy, said since that legislation there have been 21

educators designated as master principals.

To access a photo of the principals, click [here](#).

Pictured from left to right are: Griffin, Riggins, Kimbrell, Sharp and Tash.

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